

*Joins House Republican Leaders In Sending Letter Expressing "Profound Disappointment"*

**Washington, Mar 18** - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence joined other House Republican leaders in sending President Obama a letter



[Congressman Pence alongside  
Jim Koutz, Stephen Short, Ed  
Trice and Dick Jewell in his office](#)

#### **Related Documents**

[\*\*3-18-2009 - VA LETTER TO  
PRESIDENT OBAMA\*\*](#)

[H.Res.249 Text](#)

urging him not to take away health insurance from America's veterans. Text of the letter follows:

**"We are writing to express our profound disappointment over news reports that your Administration is considering a proposal to breach a solemn obligation to our nation's veterans who have courageously fought for our freedom. If true, the proposal under consideration would permit the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ignore its core responsibility to provide health care services to our men and women who have a service related disability. We recognize much work needs to be done to improve access to health care services for veterans; however, turning our backs on our veterans by shifting the burden to private health care insurers for their disability-related health care is the wrong policy course."**

The leaders conclude the letter, saying:

**"We adamantly oppose any attempt to shift this responsibility through an unfunded mandate on private insurers. We intend to protect and honor the service of our highest priority veterans by appropriating the resources necessary for their care."**

NOTE:

Congressman Pence is also a cosponsor of a resolution ( [H. Res. 249](#) ) which states that "the Department of Veterans Affairs should take full responsibility for financing the health care benefits earned by veterans with service-connected disabilities."